

## II. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A device for fixing a thin and/or flexible substrate, comprising a holding device for placing and holding a substrate on its bearing surface in which notches and/or holes, which communicate with each other and with a vacuum device, are formed, wherein  
  
a plurality of microgrooves, which communicate with the notches and/or holes, are provided in the bearing surface, the notches being formed as slots extending transversely with respect to the direction of the microgrooves.
2. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the microgrooves have a width of 80 to 160  $\mu\text{m}$ , ~~preferably of 100 to 140  $\mu\text{m}$ , particularly preferably a width of 120  $\mu\text{m}$ .~~
3. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the microgrooves have a depth of 30 to 70  $\mu\text{m}$ , ~~preferably of 40 to 60  $\mu\text{m}$ , particularly preferably a depth of 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .~~
4. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the microgrooves are formed on the device as segments of a circle, wherein the radius is 40 to 100 mm, ~~preferably 60 to 80 mm, particularly preferably 70 mm.~~
5. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the distance between the microgrooves is 0.1 to 0.2 mm, ~~preferably 0.15 mm.~~
6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim ~~6~~ 1, wherein the notches have a length of 1 to 3 cm and a width of 0.2 to 0.5 mm.
8. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein, depending on the size of the substrate to be sucked up, optionally only a part of the notches and/or holes is connectible with the vacuum device.
9. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the bearing surface is hardened.
10. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the bearing surface is eloxed black or provided with a hard coating.
11. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the holding device or its surface is made of aluminum.
12. (New) The device according to claim 1, wherein the microgrooves have a width of 100 to 140  $\mu\text{m}$ .
13. (New) The device according to claim 1, wherein the microgrooves have a width of 120  $\mu\text{m}$ .
14. (New) The device according to claim 1, wherein the microgrooves have a depth of 40 to 60  $\mu\text{m}$ .
15. (New) The device according to claim 1, wherein the microgrooves have a depth of 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .
16. (New) The device according to claim 8, wherein the radius is

60 to 80 mm.

17. (New) The device according to claim 8, wherein the radius is 70 mm.
18. (New) The device according to claim 1, wherein the distance between the microgrooves is 0.15 mm.